

ATTACHMENT 9

STEPHEN S. COBB

ATTORNEY AT LAW

724 BROADWAY, #201, NEWBURGH, NY 12550
TEL: (845) 247-5464 FAX: (845) 247-5466
EMAIL: STEVECOBB12550@AOL.COM

To: Vermont Professional Responsibility Board
Re: William W. Cobb
Date: June 29, 2023

Dear Madam/Sir:

I am writing this letter in support of my brother's request to be reinstated to the Vermont State Bar.

I have known Bill my whole life, obviously. He was an attorney long before I was, and has always conducted himself with diligence and good sportsmanship, both inside and outside the practice of law. He practiced law in New York for several years before moving to Vermont to work and raise his family.

Since he was suspended in Vermont, Bill has worked with me in Newburgh, New York, as an associate attorney. He has dedicated himself to learning unfamiliar areas of law, and has been a great help in our office. I can also affirm that Bill has taken his disciplinary sentence very seriously. He is not the kind of person who enjoys being publicly disgraced, and it is no secret locally that he is working here only because he is not permitted to do so in Vermont. This has been, I think, a lesson in humility, but also a wake-up call that you do not need to cut corners in order to effectively represent your clients. Bill has instituted certain practices - including regular meetings with current clients, more detailed retainer agreements, and inter-office sharing of what he learns from reading disciplinary decisions - that show me that he has learned a painful lesson and is determined not to repeat it.

In short, I am sorry that Bill will be going back to Vermont after his suspension period is finished. However, I am confident that he does so as a better lawyer who can better serve his constituency, and indeed his whole community.

Respectfully,



STEPHEN S. COBB, ESQ.

/ssc

VERNA W. COBB

ATTORNEY AT LAW

724 BROADWAY, NEWBURGH, NY 12550
TEL: (845) 565-0500 FAX: (845) 565-1035
EMAIL: COBBLAW@AOL.COM

June 21, 2023

TO: Vermont Professional Responsibility Board

RE: WILLIAM W. COBB

By way of introduction, I am an attorney with an office in Newburgh, NY and have been admitted to practice law since 1981 in New York State and three U.S. District Courts.

William Cobb ("Bill") Cobb is my son and I am writing this letter in support of his petition for reinstatement to the Vermont bar. I have reviewed the Professional Conduct Board's decision and am cognizant of the professional and ethical violations that led to his suspension.

Following the suspension, Bill came to New York (where he is not suspended) to help out with our practice, which consists of my son, Stephen Cobb, who is an attorney, and myself. During this time he has worked under my supervision on matters pertaining to family, business and civil law, and under Stephen's supervision on criminal and traffic matters.

He has applied himself unstintingly to this practice and is doing a top-notch job. He interacts well with clients and prepares his cases diligently. He follows up on all matters entrusted to him, always prompt with returning phone calls and e-mails.

Further, a large majority of our clients speak Spanish. Bill had some background in the language while a student at UVM in the 1980's. Once he joined us, he took intensive language studies with a variety of instructors so that he can now communicate effectively with Spanish-speaking clients without an interpreter. The clients are appreciative!

I know that Bill has taken to heart his suspension from Vermont and has applied himself in many ways to show that he is worthy of reinstatement. I fully support his petition and know that he has learned from past mistakes. I am aware that he constantly reviews professional conduct decisions from Vermont, rules of professional conduct and other legal materials to assist him with his mission to be reinstated. We have had--and continue to have--countless discussions about these matters. I believe this process has made him a better lawyer.

In our office, he uses a more thorough letter of representation. He also has a pro-active approach toward meeting with clients to review discovery, watch videos, discuss strategy and consider the next steps in their cases. I see Bill meeting with clients every day.

Bill is also active outside the office itself. He travels to various courts on a daily basis and does a good job there as well. I know this because compliments come to me from judges and attorneys who interact with him in court.

Above all, Bill is a thoughtful and caring person. He has donated countless hours to help clean up the Newburgh waterfront as well as the local and historic Downing Park in the City of Newburgh. I have walked through that park and know what a clean-up job entails—collecting used heroin needles, discarded household trash and other garbage. It has made a remarkable difference in both places. Now that he has done maintenance of his own volition, other local residents have become involved to continue on with it.

Over the years, I have encountered many lawyers - some good, some not so good. In my opinion - and taking into account all of the inherent bias a mother has for her son—I believe that Bill is one of the good ones.

I support his application for reinstatement wholeheartedly.

Bill belongs in Vermont - he has worked and lived there with his large family for many years. And, as we all know, home is where the heart is.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Verna W. Cobb". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

VERNA W. COBB

VWC/ss